

## **AIDA SANTOS MATTINGLEY**

- i LIVING**
- i Community Service Advocate**
- i Chair, Governor's Asian Advisory Council, 1995-2000**



Aida was born and raised in the Philippines and came to the United States in 1975. Her beginning years in Utah were a constant struggle having a dark skin and dark hair in a predominantly white community, but her positive mental attitude galvanized her desire to integrate into the mainstream population. Her philosophy has been to look at what she can do for the community rather than what the community can do for her.

During the past 26 years, Aida has remained actively involved in her community. She has served as: Chair of the Governor's Asian Advisory Council, a member of the 2002 Olympic Arts and Culture Advisory Council, Director of the Filipino Performing Arts of Utah; Chair of the West Valley City Arts Council and Coordinator of the International Folk Arts Festival, Chair of the Salt Lake Council of Women Cultural Arts Committee and many other councils and boards. She is a presenter, speaker and facilitator and has used her positions as vehicles in reaching out to the community.

It has always been Aida's passion to help people who are under-served. She has lobbied for the Asian Americans, as well as the other ethnic communities, for welfare reform, diversity training, the arts, ethnic health, domestic violence, discrimination and other needs that can enhance the quality of life in Utah. As the Director of the Philippine Peace Garden Council and the Filipino Performing Arts of Utah, she has paved the way to empower the youth to be of service not just for their own community but for all Utah communities. Her dream is that other immigrants like her will take an active part in the mainstream community working not just for their common good, but for the whole state of Utah.

Aida is a recipient of many awards for service to her community. For her, these awards are just reminders that Utah is truly her second home. She is a professional librarian-teacher. She credits her father for teaching her that when one is humble and grateful, the other virtues will be easier to practice. Amidst her continuous community service, her husband of twenty-three years and her son are her great supporters and cheer leaders.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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